

Shakespeare: The Tragedies

Semesters: 1

Grade(s): 9-12

Prerequisite(s): Shakespeare: The Comedies, or instructor permission

Students review Shakespeare's history as a man, actor, poet and playwright. They identify, analyze and discuss the tragic hero archetype as addressed in Shakespeare's plays. Students compare and contrast the structural elements and themes present in the comedies and the tragedies and interact with Shakespeare's tragic texts by reading and discussing excerpts and summaries. Upon completion of the course, students will submit an analysis of a film adaptation or professional performance of a Shakespearian tragedy.

Course Competencies

Shakespeare: The Tragedies	
Competency 1	Demonstrate continued understanding of the information studied in Shakespeare: Introduction to Comedies.
Sub-Topics	1. Describe Shakespeare's history as a man, actor, poet, and playwright. 2. Apply knowledge of common Shakespearean elements and themes to the study of tragedies.
Competency 2	Distinguish Shakespearean tragedies from Shakespearean comedies.
Sub-Topics	1. Compare and contrast Shakespeare's comedies and tragedies. 2. Identify general characteristics that are unique to Shakespeare's tragedies and identify examples of these characteristics in Shakespeare's work.
Competency 3	Identify, analyze, and discuss the tragic hero archetype as addressed in Shakespeare's plays.
Sub-Topics	1. Describe characteristics of a tragic hero. 2. Identify the tragic hero in Shakespeare's key tragedies. 3. Explain what makes each identified character a tragic hero. 4. Compare and contrast Shakespeare's tragic heroes.
Competency 4	Actively engage with text and experience Shakespeare's tragedies.
Sub-Topics	1. Read, discuss, and analyze excerpts of Shakespeare's tragedies. 2. Read, discuss, and analyze summaries of Shakespeare's tragedies. 3. View either a film version or a professional live performance of a Shakespearean tragedy and will produce commentary about their observations.